

Not Just Peanuts

In a community that's far from any town, 3 sisters planned to change their community with peanuts. Sarthia, Piremeka, and Vishaathana explained that it had only rained in their community in India a few times over the last year causing a severe water shortage.

Piremeka and husband began the dream of a better life for their family. They heard about programs that provided small loans to people. They sought a loan to help them open a little store.

The store—the only of its kind for miles—carried groceries and items you would find in any corner store. They had bread, milk, oil, and candy. However, the store didn't provide a profit that would give the family better opportunities, and there certainly wasn't enough money remaining to invest in their community.

So Piremeka and her sisters came up with a different plan. They planned to make a better life for themselves and for their community. They applied for loans to become peanut farmers.

The sisters were very wise in their new business. They held on to their peanuts for just the right time to get the best price for their harvest at market. They learned if they would plant peanuts for 2 or 3 harvests and then allow the land to rest, they would reap a bigger harvest. They learned to protect their investment.

The sisters and their families used peanut farming to raise enough money to ultimately build wells on their property. Where they lived, their gardens, animals and livelihoods were all affected by the water shortage. By building three wells in their small community, they would change the flow of the water, bringing water into the community where all could benefit.

What looks like just peanuts, became a life sustaining adventure.

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